

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/052978 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H01J 37/00**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/JP2004/017969

(22) International Filing Date:
25 November 2004 (25.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2003-394655 25 November 2003 (25.11.2003) JP
2003-394653 25 November 2003 (25.11.2003) JP
2004-128856 23 April 2004 (23.04.2004) JP
2004-128824 23 April 2004 (23.04.2004) JP

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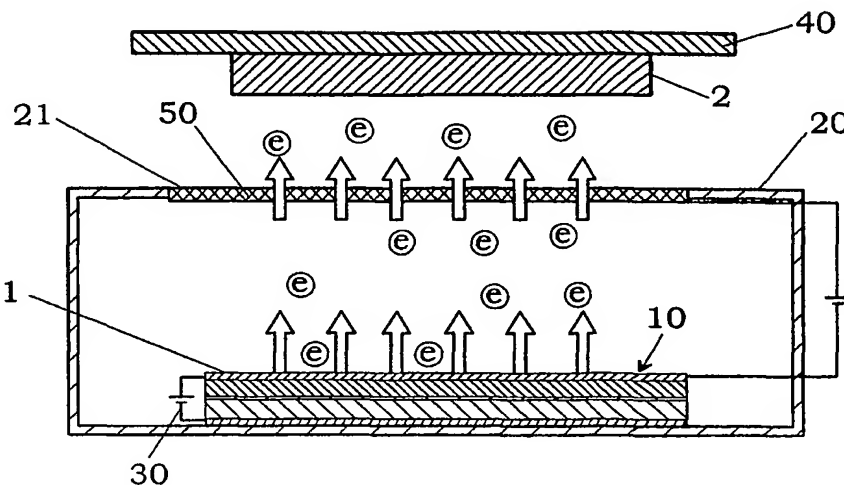
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH,

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(54) Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MODIFYING OBJECT WITH ELECTRONS GENERATED FROM COLD CATHODE ELECTRON EMITTER**



(57) Abstract: Apparatus and method for modifying an object with electrons are provided, by which the object can be uniformly and efficiently modified with the electrons under a pressure substantially equal to atmospheric pressure even when having a relatively wide surface area to be treated. This method uses a cold-cathode electron emitter having the capability of emitting electrons from a planar electron emitting portion according to tunnel effect, and preferably comprising a pair of electrodes, and a strong field drift layer including nanocrystalline silicon disposed between the electrodes. The object is exposed to electrons emitted from the planar electron emitting portion by applying a voltage between the electrodes. It is preferred that an energy of the emitted electrons is selected from a range of 1 eV to 50 keV, and preferably 1 eV to 100 eV.

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PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN,
TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE,

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report

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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.